桐原小鳥
初めての少年誌、初めての月刊連載。
地図も道標も、
コンパスすら持たずに旅に出てしまいました。
なんとか旅装を整えつつ、
漸く一巻のお目見えです。
まだぎこちない、
私と晩春達の旅を楽しんで聞ければ嬉しいです。
朱月のアゲハ
diluculum papilio
桐原小鳥
1
Kadokawa Comics
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diluculum papilio
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朱月のアゲハ

diluculum papilio

桐原小鳥

1

首輪系男子之図

朱月のアゲハ
diluculum papilio
1
桐原小鳥

ファン ファン ファン ファン
朱月の牙
ISN'T IT QUITE LOUD TONIGHT?
PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE THE SECURITY ISN'T RUNNING PROPERLY?
ファン
YEAH, IT FEELS LIKE SOMETHING IS LURKING AROUND HERE ...
ファン
ファン
ファン

朱月の女
桐原小鳥
1

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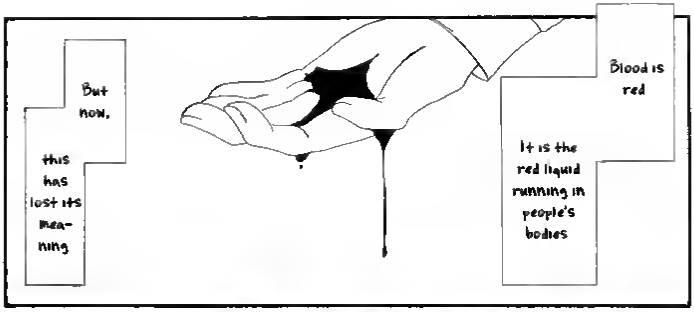
Come, I'll open it for you...
free.
You are
Amazing!!
So. You. Can. Open. That. Door.

PLEASE COME HERE
GOOD WORK
KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
THE VICTIM IS FEMALE. PROBABLY 20 YEARS OLD
Hm?
THE BODY IS VERY
YOU SHOULD MEASURE THE MOUTH AND NOSE MORE CAREFULLY
SEN-PAI?
YES?
PROBABLY ??
AHH YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU SEE IT.
THE VICTIM IS PROBABLY ...
WELL...

But her body isn't intact anymore.
The moment I pushed back the surrounding forest, I felt nausea.
Metal
Metal
Metal and
INDEED, ONE CAN ONLY SAY "PROBABLY 20 YEARS OLD"
……

No,
it didn't even have the reverence of "death"
Everything smelled like death.
On-ly ...
the killed "sub-ject"
KU-DOU?
HEY, WAIT
ズキン
touch!

WHAT?
HEY! KUDOU!!
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE SOMEONE SAW HER AROUND HERE
IF YOU'RE GOING, MAKE SURE TO CLEAN YOUR HANDS!
HOW COULD I LET YOU GO LIKE THIS --- YOU'LL BE MISTAKEN FOR THE CULPRIT!
EH
The blood is slowly drying on my hand
YES
OKAY
LET'S SEPARATE


But now,
this has lost its meaning
Blood is red
It is the red liquid running in people's bodies

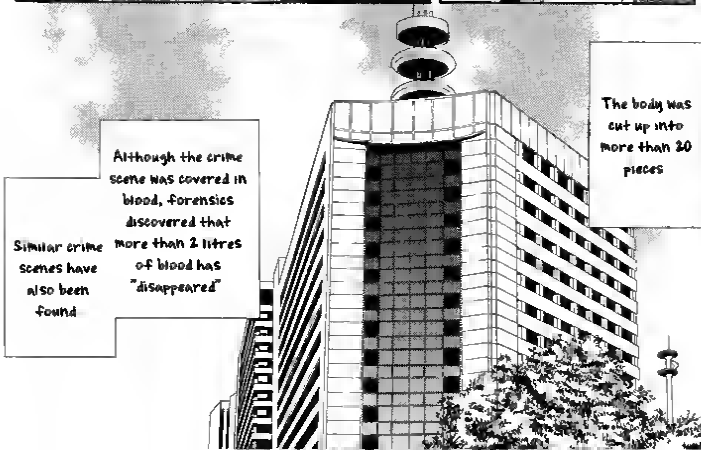
when blood flowed away from its vessel
The same thing happened 21 years ago...

whisp...

Clench

That's
strange

T/N ASSUMING THAT MOST GIRLS THESE DAYS PREFER SHORT SKIRTS

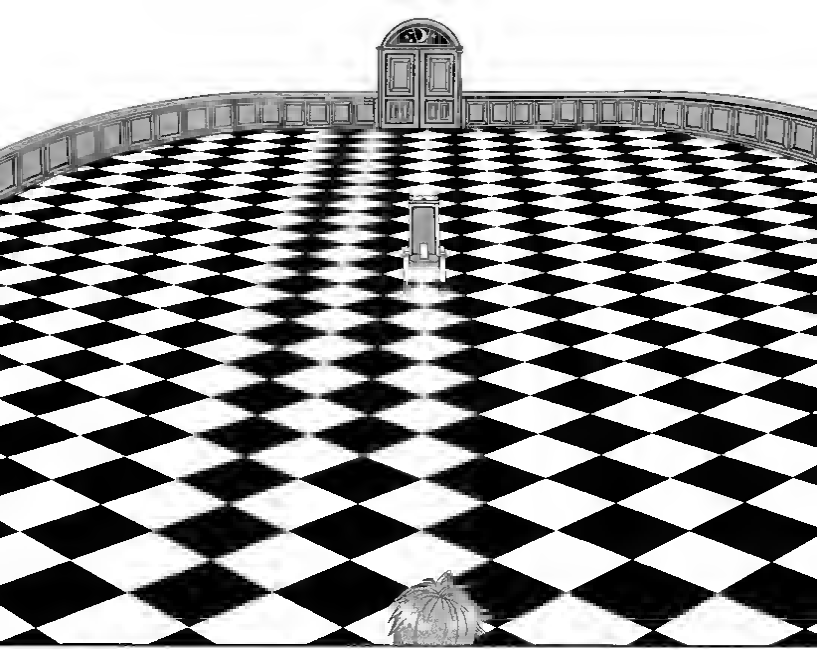


LONG TIME NO SEE, HIIRAGI-SAN
THESE DAYS, QUITE A FEW WOMEN HAVE BEEN KILLED
THEY RANGE FROM 10-30 IN AGE AND THERE HAS BEEN FIVE CASES SO FAR
EACH BODY WAS CUT UP INTO MORE THAN 30 PIECES
BLOOD WAS MISSING FROM EACH SCENE

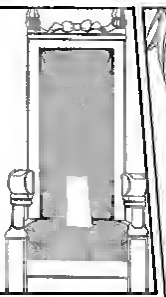
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS LAKE THERE IS A THREE-COLOURED CAT COULD YOU PLEASE GIVE THIS TO HIM?
WHAT CAN YOU LEARN FROM ME,
KUDOU-SAN?
stares
munch munch
MEOW
EH A THREE COLOURED CAT...
IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE... ACCORDING TO THIS MAP...

.....
THIS BUILDING LOOKS OUT OF PLACE
pull

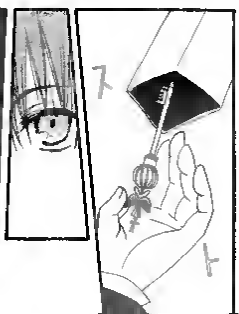
ANYWAY, LET'S GO UP FIRST
DOOR OPENS
.....
Hiiragi-san
WHY DO I FEEL GUILTY? WELL...
Ah never-mind
I'M NOT INTRU-DING OR ANYTHING
CLICK
CLICK
21
OPENS
EHH...



rustle
rustle



HUH
...
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS??



KUDOU AKANE-SAN.

!
SORRY FOR DISTURBING
click

WHO ARE YOU?

That face
That
girl
The fo-rest
scares
She was at the crime scene !!!!
!
.....
IT'S NOT VERY NICE TO GRAB A GIRL YOU'VE NEVER MET BEFORE
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU DOING IN THAT FOREST??
"THAT FO-REST"?
THE FOREST IN WHICH A MURDER HAP-PENED!
AH, AH!
YOU MEAN "THE FOREST IN WHICH A WOMAN WAS KILLED"?

ILLU-SION?
HOW STRANGE YOU SAW THROUGH MY ILLUSION
Lets go
SO YOU SAW ME BACK THERE
THE OTHERS REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE MY PRESENCE, NO?
LOO-KING FOR SOME-THING?
YEAH.
DON'T WORRY, I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR SOMETHING
!
WHAT WERE YOU DOING THERE...?

What
Where did that key come from...?
A KEY..?

TECHNI-CALLY, IT IS A "TRACE OF A KEY"

I AM LOOKING FOR THE ORIGIN OF EVIL.
SO I CAN GO TO *THAT* PLACE.

It's like ...
HOW ARE YOU?
AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
WHAT ...
What is this girl doing?
She's telling me a story ...
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
I WANT TO KNOW THE MURDERER.
OH REALLY...
THEN I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.
THEN HURRY UP AND TELL ME...
BUT ...
I WON'T HELP YOU FOR FREE.

THAT PERSON DIDN'T TELL YOU ANY-THING?
EH?
I DON'T WANT STUFF LIKE MONEY
?
YOU'RE VERY BRAVE IN FRONT OF A POLICE-MAN...
HE DIDN'T TELL YOU SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT. HIIRAGI-SAN ISN'T A NICE PERSON
EH?
WHAT?
THE COST FOR MY SERVICE ...
IS YOUR BLOOD.

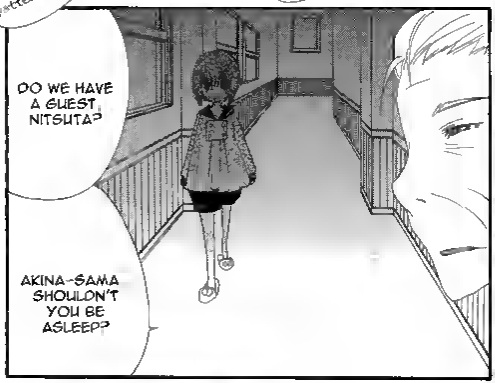
"SECRET ROUTES" UNDER FLOOR-BOARDS
THERE REALLY ARE
THESE PICTURES AREN'T SUITABLE FOR GIRLS
YOU WERE SO ROUGH A MOMENT AGO
THERE HAS BEEN FIVE CASES SO FAR
ONE CRIME HAPPENED IN THE FOREST SUR-ROUNDING THIS BUILDING
Ah, I'm so sorry
Don't bother Let me see

HAVE YOU FOUND ANY SUSPECTS YET?
THE VICTIMS AREN'T CONNECTED IN ANY WAY, APART FROM AGE AND GENDER.
DOES ANYONE LIVE IN THERE?
THREE PEOPLE LIVE IN THAT RESIDENCE - THE OWNER, HIS SON AND THEIR HOUSEKEEPER.
OKAY ...
THE CAUSE MUST BE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THESE PEOPLE.
NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE THE HOUSE-KEEPER AND OWNER ARE VERY OLD AND THE SON IS A VERY SICKLY CHILD...
THEY DON'T HAVE THE STAMINA TO KILL... NOR THE MOTIVE...
EH??

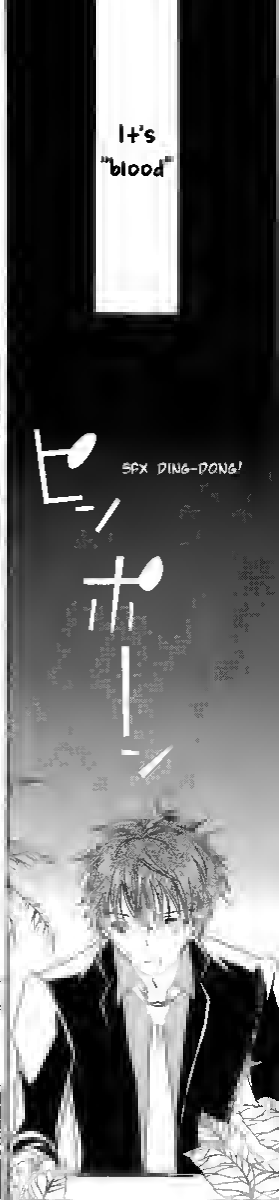
PERHAPS THESE PLACES ARE CONNECTED WITH AN UNDER-GROUND PASSAGE
IS THE SAME DESIGN AS THE STONE TILES FOUND AT THE SCENE
THE COLOURED GLASS ON THOSE WINDOWS
UNDER-GROUND PAS-SAGE??
FROM THE PHOTO, YOU CAN TELL THE RESIDENCE IS A VERY OLD BUILDING. OLD BUILDINGS OFTEN HAVE EMERGENCY EXITS.
THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS CAN ESCAPE SAFELY WHEN NEEDED. ONLY FAMILY MEMBERS KNOW WHERE THESE ARE
AT EVERY SCENE, THERE WAS SOMETHING MISSING. NO?
blood
It's...
BY "WORK" YOU MEAN
THEY'RE PROBABLY USING THESE PASSAGES TO HIDE THEIR DIRTY WORK.

I'M SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU SO LATE AT NIGHT I, KUDOU, AM HERE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE MURDER CASE. I HOPE YOU WILL CO-OPERATE
---COMING... WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?

tap tap
.....
OKAY, PLEASE WAIT...

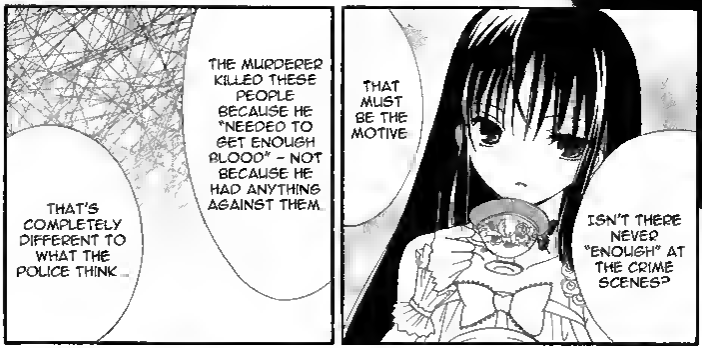

Patter Patter
DO WE HAVE A GUEST, NITSUTA?
AKINA-SAMA SHOULDN'T YOU BE ASLEEP?

YEAH BUT I DON'T FEEL LIKE SLEEPING...


It's "blood"
SFX DING-DONG!

WHAT WILL YOU BE TALKING ABOUT? MAY I JOIN IN TOO?
NO, YOU'LL RUIN YOUR BODY. GO BACK TO SLEEP
I'LL BRING YOU SOME MILK LATER
OKAY
THEN YOU MUST TELL ME TOMORROW
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.
IF IT WILL MAKE AKINA-SAMA HAPPY, I WILL

PLEASE SIT. MASTER WILL SEE YOU SOON.
NO NEED.
I'LL BRING YOU SOME TEA LATER. PLEASE SIT.
"Blood"
.....?


THE MURDERER KILLED THESE PEOPLE BECAUSE HE "NEEDED TO GET ENOUGH BLOOD" – NOT BECAUSE HE HAD ANYTHING AGAINST THEM.
THAT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TO WHAT THE POLICE THINK...
THAT MUST BE THE MOTIVE
ISN'T THERE NEVER "ENOUGH" AT THE CRIME SCENES?

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE? SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY?
.....
MORE THAN TWO LITRES OF BLOOD WAS MISSING, NO? NORMAL PEOPLE WOULD DIE WITHOUT THAT MUCH BLOOD.
YOU... AREN'T... THAT...??
Vampires are like this huh?

WELL
that's true
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU'RE BRAVE OR JUST PLAIN STUPID,
BECAUSE IF I WAS THE CRIMINAL, I WOULD HAVE ALREADY KILLED YOU AND TAKEN YOUR BLOOD
SORRY FOR WAITING, KUDOU-SAMA
SHE DID SAY THAT
They must have some "secret"
Go and investigate that residence
AH~ THAT CUP?
THIS CUP IS FOR YOUNG MASTER, WHO IS ABOUT TO SLEEP. HE REALLY WANTED TO SEE YOU, KUDOU-SAMA
PLEASE ...
FEEL FREE TO DRINK THIS.

I GUESS IT'S INAPPROPRIATE TO MAKE HIM LISTEN TO WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY
THE YOUNG MASTER IS QUITE A STRANGE SICKLY CHILD
HOW OLD IS HE?
TEN YEARS OLD
ONE DAY, I MIGHT BRING SOMETHING NICE FOR YOUR MASTER
COME
....?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? YOU DON'T LOOK TOO WELL, KUDOU-SAMA
NO, I'M JUST A BIT...
I'M ALRIGHT
My eyes ... blurry
I'm spinning ...
Why is he laughing ...
What's wrong?

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